## **Internal Revenue Service**

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Department of the Treasury

Washington, DC 20224

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Date:

April 18, 2019

# LEGEND:

<u>X</u> =

State =

Date 1 =

<u>Date 2</u> =

Date 3 =

Agreement =

<u>Date 4</u> =

<u>Amendment</u> =

<u>Date 5</u> =

Dear :

This letter responds to a letter dated September 26, 2018, submitted on behalf of  $\underline{X}$ , requesting rulings under § 1362(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **Facts**

The information submitted states that  $\underline{X}$  is a limited liability company organized under the laws of <u>State</u> on <u>Date 1</u>.  $\underline{X}$  made elections to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation and to be an S corporation effective <u>Date 2</u>.

On <u>Date 3</u>, the original founding members of  $\underline{X}$  entered into <u>Agreement</u>. <u>Agreement</u> provided that all distributions would be made to the members in proportion to their respective membership interests, including upon liquidation. On <u>Date 4</u>, the members adopted <u>Amendment</u>, which stated that upon liquidation, distributions would be paid to members with positive capital accounts in accordance with their respective positive capital account balances, as adjusted pursuant to Section 704 of the Code. On <u>Date 5</u>, <u>Amendment</u> was amended to correct the liquidating distribution language and provide for distributions on a pro rata basis in accordance with membership ownership percentages.

 $\underline{X}$  represents that the termination of  $\underline{X}$ 's S corporation election was inadvertent and not motivated by tax avoidance.  $\underline{X}$  further represents that since  $\underline{Date\ 2}$ ,  $\underline{X}$  and its members have filed all returns consistent with  $\underline{X}$ 's status as an S corporation.  $\underline{X}$  also represents that since  $\underline{Date\ 2}$ , all distributions were made to the members based on their pro rata shares of ownership of  $\underline{X}$ .  $\underline{X}$  and its members have agreed to make such adjustments consistent with the treatment of  $\underline{X}$  as an S corporation as may be required by the Secretary.

### Law and Analysis

Section 1361(a)(1) provides that the term "S corporation" means, with respect to any taxable year, a small business corporation for which an election under § 1362(a) is in effect for such year.

Section 1361(b)(1) defines a "small business corporation" as a domestic corporation which is not an ineligible corporation and which does not (A) have more than 100 shareholders, (B) have as a shareholder a person (other than an estate, a trust described in § 1361(c)(2), or an organization described in § 1361(c)(6)) who is not an individual, (C) have a nonresident alien as a shareholder, and (D) have more than one class of stock.

Section 1362(f) provides that if (1) an election under § 1362(a) by any corporation (A) was not effective for the taxable year for which made (determined without regard to § 1362(b)(2)) by reason of a failure to meet the requirements of § 1361(b) or to obtain shareholder consents or (B) was terminated under § 1362(d)(2) or (3), (2) the Secretary determines that the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination were inadvertent, (3) no later than a reasonable period of time after discovery of the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination, steps were taken (A) so

that the corporation for which the election was made or the termination occurred is a small business corporation or (B) to acquire the shareholder consents, and (4) the corporation for which the election was made or the termination occurred, and each person who was a shareholder of the corporation at any time during the period specified pursuant to § 1362(f), agrees to make such adjustments (consistent with the treatment of the corporation as an S corporation) as may be required by the Secretary with respect to such period, then, notwithstanding the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination, the corporation will be treated as an S corporation during the period specified by the Secretary.

Section 1.1361-1(I)(1) of the Income Tax Regulations provides that a corporation generally is treated as having only one class of stock if all outstanding shares of stock of the corporation confer identical rights to distribution and liquidation proceeds.

Section 1.1361-1(I)(2)(i) provides that the determination of whether all outstanding shares of stock confer identical rights to distribution and liquidation proceeds is made based on the corporate charter, articles of incorporation, bylaws, applicable state law, and binding agreements relating to distribution and liquidation proceeds (collectively, the governing provisions).

#### Conclusion

Based solely on the facts submitted and representations made, we conclude that  $\underline{X}$ 's S corporation election terminated on  $\underline{Date\ 4}$  due to provisions in  $\underline{Amendment}$ . However, we conclude that such termination was inadvertent within the meaning of § 1362(f). Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of § 1362(f),  $\underline{X}$  will be treated as an S corporation effective  $\underline{Date\ 4}$ , and thereafter, provided that  $\underline{X}$  is otherwise eligible to be an S corporation and provided that the election was not otherwise terminated.

Except as expressly provided herein, no opinion is expressed or implied concerning the tax consequences of any aspect of any transaction or item discussed or referenced in this letter. In particular, no opinion is expressed on whether  $\underline{X}$  otherwise qualifies as an S corporation.

The ruling contained in this letter is based upon information and representations submitted by the taxpayer and accompanied by a penalty of perjury statement executed by the appropriate party. While this office has not verified any of the material submitted in support of the ruling request, it is subject to verification on examination.

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer requesting it. Section 6110(k)(3) of the Code provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

In accordance with the Power of Attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to your authorized representatives.

Sincerely,

Joy C. Spies Senior Technician Reviewer, Branch 1 (Passthroughs & Special Industries)

Enclosures (2): Copy of this letter Copy for 6110 purposes